

JAKA PRABANGKARA
Jaka Prabangkara

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Language Development and Cultivation Agency
Ministry of Education and Culture
Republic of Indonesia
2018

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Translated from
Jaka Prabangkara
adapted by Fairul Zabadi
based on the work of Djamari
published by
Language Development and Cultivation Agency
Ministry of Education and Culture
in 2016

This translation has been published as the result of the translation program organized
by The Center for Language Strategy and Diplomacy Development,
Language Development and Cultivation Agency, Ministry of Education and Culture
in 2018

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JAKA PRABANGKARA

Jaka Prabangkara the Master Painter

Jaka Prabangkara was the son of the King of Majapahit, Prabu Brawijaya V, born to a commoner. The king had met Prabangkara's mother when he was in disguise as a commoner in order to know the lives of his subjects beyond the palace's walls. When he was disguised in commoner outfit, he was accompanied by his two most loyal aides, Semut and Gatel. After some tour to inspect the real situation of his subjects, the king became tired and he wanted to rest. It so happened that not far from where the king sat, there was a house of a butcher. The butcher offered the king and his aides to rest in his house. The kind offer was gladly welcomed by the king. The butcher had a daughter, a young beautiful widow. The king was interested in the daughter of the butcher. Soon, a relationship occurred between the king and the butcher's daughter.

A few months later, the romance brought a healthy and handsome baby boy. The baby was named Raden Jaka Prabangkara. Unfortunately, the king did not want to openly admit that Jaka Prabangkara was his son. After he grew up, Jaka Prabangkara served his father, King of Majapahit. He was appointed lurah, head of a precinct. Aside from this post, Jaka Prabangkara was

also assigned as the court's painter as he was truly gifted in painting. His painting looked very realistic. In many occasions, the king assigned Jaka Prabangkara to paint many objects. Once, he painted the landscape of forest and all creatures within, such as various kinds of trees and animals. His paintings were so life-like and as beautiful as the real thing. The king also commanded him to paint objects as well as buildings both within and beyond the palace of Majapahit. One day, the king commanded, "Prabangkara, make me a painting of marine life. Paint all kinds of fish and other animals within, be it the small and big ones, shrimps, turtles, seahorses, sea snakes, jellyfish, the beauty of coral reefs, and the beauty of the life down under. All creatures, those that slither, creep, crawl, as well as those that swim must you paint."

Jaka Prabangkara soon undertook the assignment. He could finish the assignment flawlessly and amazingly. Nobody who saw the painting wouldn't be flabbergasted in awe as the painting was really life-like in terms of colour and shape. King Brawijaya V was very pleased with Prabangkara's work.

His love to Jaka Prabangkara had been considerable. Though he didn't openly admit that Prabangkara was his son, deep down he admitted the fact for sure. Due to his painting skills and the trust the king had in him, he was one day asked to paint a picture of the Queen, Ratu Mas Andarwati. It was a tough task but he managed

to finish it flawlessly. The painting of Ratu Mas Andarwati or the princess from the land of Champa was like real. If one was to put the painting before the Queen, it looked as though the Queen was looking at herself into a mirror. The king was fascinated by the painting. He was very pleased and happy. His admiration to Jaka Prabangkara grew deeper.

The Suspicion and the Wrath of the King

The king insatiably looked at the painting of his queen that had been made by Jaka Prabangkara. He admired it as it was very fine and as if it could talk. When the king was admiring the painting of Ratu Mas Andarwati, he saw a dot that looked like a mole in some certain area of the queen's body. He thought it was some sort of stain in the painting as he had never seen that mole before. The king became enraged and held Prabangkara liable.

“Hey, Jaka Prabangkara. You have made a big mistake in painting my queen. Look at that painting, why was there a black dot? Was it because of the splashes of the ink you had used while you were painting?”

“Deepest apology, Majesty. The black dot was indeed from an accidental splashes of ink. I had been thoughtless as to erase the black dot,” replied Jaka Prabangkara as he apologized for his negligence. The king remained angry. He kept thinking about the black dot. The king then realized that the queen indeed had a

mole on her body and the dot that had been thought as a mole was located very precisely in the painting. The King pondered, had Prabangkara painted his queen so close that he could recognize a hidden mole? The king grew even angrier as he suspected that Jaka Prabangkara had been insolent to the queen.

If that was true, that meant that he had also been insolent to the king. The more the king thought about it, his wrath escalated.

“Prabangkara, I never knew you’d be so impertinent and insolent. What an ungrateful boy. I have done a lot for you,” muttered the King.

The wrath of the King became more and more intense. This was worsened by the fact that Prabangkara’s frequent presence in the palace.

Every time he saw Prabangkara, his anger boiled over. The king was consumed by his own hatred. The thought of Prabangkara always overwhelmed him so much that the King found it difficult for him to sleep. His rage then became unbearable. He decided to give Jaka Prabangkara a tough punishment. That man must be sentenced to death. Before the decision was undertaken, the King discussed the matter with the Archvicerent Gajah mada. After the explanation and complain from the King, Gajahmada became dejected and sad. He then spoke of his view on the matter.

“Your Majesty Prabu Brawijaya, I beg to differ with Your Majesty’s intent to sentence your son Jaka Prabangkara to death, only based on a presumption that have yet been proven true. There is a saying, even the wildest and the most dangerous among the beasts such as the lions and snakes will never ever eat their own young. We the humans are bound to be higher in dignity than the animals. Men are created by God with moral, common sense and wisdom. No parent would ever kill their own child.” Prabu Brawijaya listened to the view of his archvicegerent. Gajahmada, with his utmost respect, kept on giving his view that would contribute to the consideration of the King to determine the sentence for Raden Jaka Prabangkara.

“Milord, what was Raden Jaka Prabangkara’s transgression? As far as I can see, everything was based on presumption. Majesty, there is a big possibility that you have wrongly presumed towards Raden Jaka Prabangkara of insolence, not to mention that such presumption had not been based on real evidence.”

“I implore you, to think clearly, Majesty. Don’t let yourself driven by impulse, not to be carried away by your rage. Aren’t Your Majesty famous of being very powerful, prosperous, and wise in your reign? Your Majesty is well-taught in law. All decisions must be made based on thorough observation, prudence, and in the end, wrapped up by wisdom.”

“The matter on your son Raden Jaka Prabangkara is unclear. Yet, accusation was made against him. Even the accusation had led you to impose a death sentence. It would be an inappropriate decision. Such deed won’t fit for a King who is called wise and first-grade.” The Archvicerent Gajahmada went on.

“Suppose that your decree had been undertaken, Raden Jaka Prabangkara died because of the sentence. I would like to ask you a question, Majesty, who will suffer most from the death of Jaka Prabangkara? Nobody would suffer but his parents.”

Gajahmada then approached Prabu Brawijaya. As he sobbed, he said, “Majesty, cancel your decision to sentence your own son Raden Jaka Prabangkara to death. You will regret this later. Remember, Majesty, you stood at the very center for law and order and regulation. Majesty is the center of justice for everyone.”

Prabu Brawijaya was deeply touched by the opinion of his Archvicerent. Tears unnoticeably damped his cheeks. He became melancholic. Words of the Archvicerent really struck the mind and heart of the King. The Archvicerent had managed to prevent the King from wrongdoing. Prabu Brawijaya V finally cancelled the death sentence for Raden Jaka Prabangkara. The King then approached the Archvicerent Gajahmada and whispered something.

“Uncle, I have been mistaken. I must thank you very much, Uncle. I shall leave this matter to you. I only ask one thing, Raden Jaka Prabangkara must leave Majapahit. No one can know about this.” Archvicerent Gajahmada agreed to undertake the King’s request, and bid the King farewell to meet Raden Jaka Prabangkara.

Airborne with a Kite

Archvicerent Gajahmada soon made some strategy for undertaking the will of the King. He then went to meet Jaka Prabangkara and said, “Raden, your father King Brawijaya had assigned you to paint all object in the space, matters of the sky. Some of those are the moon, stars, lightning, rainbow, clouds, meteor, wind, shooting stars, bolt, thunder, rain, twilight and the horizon. You must also paint all birds that fly in the sky and birds that don’t live on earth, such as the birds of the gods, the king bird.” Raden Jaka Prabangkara accepted the assignment of the King. The Archvicerent then left him to meet King Brawijaya.

“Majesty, Raden Jaka Prabangkara had accepted the assignment to draw everything you ordered.”

King Brawijaya was very happy at the report of the Archvicerent. The next day, Prabu Brawijaya ordered his subjects to make a giant kite at the size of 7 fathoms.

The King also commanded to make some sort of a rectangular cage in which Raden Jaka Prabangkara would do the painting. This cage contained all painting equipments and supplies while he was airborne with the giant kite. Some days later, the construction of the kite and the cage was finished. The kite was then presented to the king in the presence of all palace officials. A length of rope required to fly the kite had also been prepared. Raden Jaka Prabangkara soon appeared before the King to bid him farewell for commencing his duties. King Brawijaya soon made a pronouncement to Raden Jaka Prabangkara, “O, Prabangkara, accept this letter and read the address.”

Raden Jaka Prabangkara accepted the sealed letter and looked at the address of the letter that read “The Letter of Prabu Bawijaya to His Son, Raden Jaka Prabangkara.” Raden Jaka Prabangkara was deeply moved as King Brawijaya had openly admitted that he was son to the King of Majapahit. King Brawijaya then said to his son, “Prabangkara, you could clearly read the address of the letter, couldn’t you? Now, I say to you, never open this letter before your assignment is accomplished. Do your duties with my blessing.”

Raden Jaka Prabangkara declared he was ready. He then bade the king farewell courteously. He would undertake all king’s assignment to the best of his abilities. Afterwards, Raden Jaka Prabangkara went inside the cage. Prabu Brawijaya then

commanded the rope to be stretched and the kite to be aeriaded. Soon, the wind blew hard and lifted the kite. The kite was soon airborne, like a soaring giant garuda bird.

The kite flew higher that it looked like a dot in the sky. King Brawijaya soon unsheathed his sword. The sword gleamed once it was drawn from the scabbard. The King looked at the flying, ever-shrinking kite in the sky until it finally went out of sight. King Brawijaya then commanded the people to stop extending the kite rope. The King soon got off the platform, sword in hand and cried to the Archvicegerent Gajahmada, the dukes, and Majapahit officials.

“Loyal subjects of Majapahit, you shall all be the witnesses of my words to Jaka Prabangkara. O, dear son, Jaka Prabangkara, don’t you land before you reach the land of the Chinese. Fear not, as in the land of the Chinese, someone will adopt you as son and will help you to find happiness in the future.”

“You shall find great honour. Your descendants shall spread all over China. Your sons and grandsons shall travel to Java and I allow them to enjoy the yields of the land of the Javanese. What they do here shall not be met with hardships. They will be no stranger in the land of the Javanese.”

Archvicegerent Gajahmada and all subjects of Majapahit hailed the pronouncement of the King towards his son. They also prayed

that in the future, Raden Jaka Prabangkara would really fulfill the expectation of King Brawijaya. As they prayed, bolts of lightning struck, followed by thunder as if sealing the pronouncement and saying, “we also bear witness to the pronouncement of Prabu Brawijaya.”

Prabu Brawijaya lifted his sword. He swiftly slashed the kite rope. The kite flew even higher into the sky, followed by a gust of strong wind. The kite and its rope flew into the sky and looked like a great dragon cruising the sky. Eventually, the rope of the kite became invisible. It followed wherever the kite had flown. King Brawijaya sheathed his sword again as he kept looking to the sky, watching the kite disappeared. King Brawijaya was deeply touched. He felt as though his heart was ripped, he was sorry for what he did. He was stupefied, he felt as though his heart had been severed. As he saw the kite went out of sight, he felt a deep loss. The King felt that he lost something he had loved so much. The King grew restless and felt uneasy. He felt as though his heart had gone. He felt limp as if his heart stopped pumping blood through his veins. The thought of his beloved son who had gone very far, not knowing he'd be alive or dead, was always in his mind. The King realized that he made a mistake because he was driven by jealousy and consumed by anger. Deep down he was ashamed because what he just did was totally inappropriate from someone great. Had Jaka Prabangkara died, would he be happy? Had his wrath gone? Prabu Brawijaya shed a

tear. Everyone who attended the ceremony, the Archvicegerent Gajahmada, dukes, ministers, and subjects of Majapahit were very sad. They felt their chests were filled up by emotion. They remembered Raden Jaka Prabangkara; a handsome, well-mannered young man who was well-taught, chivalrous, and polite.

He respected anyone; the elders, his peers, and the young ones alike. Never did he discriminate people due to their ancestry, faith, or caste. He honoured all differences by being just and wise. The king then said that he would retire to the palace. He submitted himself to the will of God the Almighty. The ceremony was dismissed by the Archvicegerent Gajahmada. Everybody returned to their own places.

The Letter of King Brawijaya

Raden Jaka Prabangkara was now airborne. The cage had been tied strongly to the kite that now soared in the sky. The earth was now invisible, as if drowned by the air. Days and nights, the wind ceaselessly carried the kite higher, further into the sky. The kite had reached the area where the king birds and birds of the gods had been. He didn't forget to paint those birds. Likewise, he had painted all the objects and matters within the sky. He didn't leave anything behind. Sixty days passed. All duties assigned to him by King Brawijaya had all been well accomplished. Raden Jaka Prabangkara said to himself.

“I’ve been so eager to know the content of the letter that father had given me. But father also said that I wasn’t to open the letter until all assignments were accomplished. Now that I have accomplished all duties, I want to know what father had said.” Jaka Prabangkara soon opened the cover of the letter. He read the letter word by word with all his feeling.

“From the bottom of my pure heart, I address this letter to you, my son, Raden Jaka Prabangkara. Along with my blessing, and my praise for you. You, my son, are a person who had comprehended the meanings of life. My son, you have also experienced moral, high-mind, and wisdom, explore the smooth and the rough, the good and the bad. You are loyal in your dedication. Now, my son, you are in a duty that I assigned to you. I assigned you to paint all matters in the sky. Prabangkara, this letter contains the last words I address to you. This letter serves as a breaker of love and affection a father had had for his son, between me and you, My son. Gone were my love and affection to you as you flew with the kite into the sky. It was my last moment with you. I say this to you, wherever you are don’t bother to return to Majapahit.

However, I have to remind you, don’t be sad and don’t misjudge me. I always pray that you shall be in good shape. Submit yourself and have faith to God the Almighty. Recently, I have changed my feeling towards you. Even I myself am wondering

why have I hated you. I've found that there is no cure to my hatred and anger against you. I haven't the slightest idea where had my decency and ruthlessness in me been. All I know, I find you appalling. Now, we have been apart and it is now impossible for us to be reunited. However, I say this to you, live this life with sincerity. I'm not trying to say that I had wished for your death. Please understand that I actually am showing you the path that would lead you to honour in your life.

In order to achieve honour, you must know things of complicated nature that are unreachable by the minds of the common men; the risky and the strange things. You must also endure pain, heat, and sorrow.

The task I gave you should be understood as a valuable lesson and experience that should make you wiser. Your knowledge on many things will never cease to be very useful life. Aren't prestige and happiness started with struggle that sometimes full of misery? My son, may God bless you. Your struggle will not be in vain. Someday you will achieve true grace from God the Almighty. You shall be evaded from poverty and misery. You deserve to be called noble, person of wealth, generosity, and virtue. If you behave as a person with good moral and righteousness, you and your descendants will gain honour. My dear son Prabangkara, what I ask of you is that you shall never ever land anywhere but in the land of the Chinese. I shall pray to

God the Almighty that you will land in China safely. Someday, there will be people who help you with love. Such will be the start of your life in China. Someday you will be a king and full of honour. You will be a notorious King and respected by adversaries. No one shall outmatch your skills and might. You shall have many children and live prosperously. Someday, many of your descendants will sail to Java and live here. I shall allow your descendants to enjoy the yields of Java. My son, Prabangkara, you should exercise caution, remain attentive and vigilant. Don't you forget everything I told you." That was the end of Prabu Brawijaya's letter to Jaka Prabangkara. He couldn't contain his emotion and sorrow. Tears poured on his cheeks as he sobbed. He was sad and he felt as though his heart was ripped. He felt uncertain, confused, and bewildered.

But Jaka Prabangkara soon came to his sense. He didn't let himself drown in sorrow, nor did he linger in confusion. He was determined, he submitted himself to the will of God the Almighty. Gone were his anxiety and fear. He soon kept the letter he had just read. Raden Jaka Prabangkara prayed, he asked God that everything his father had hoped for would be answered. God the Merciful and the Beneficent answered the prayers of Jaka Prabangkara. All of a sudden, the wind blew so hard that it took the kite down to the earth. No wind and cloud dared to get in its way. The kite swooped down to the earth as though it were a garuda bird that was hunting its prey on the ground. It'd been the

will of the Almighty to love His creation who was in misery. Soon after, the kite descended. Jaka Prabangkara could finally see the ground. He clearly could see borders between cities, villages, edge of forests, foot of mountain, and trees on its slope.

At that time, the dawn was nearly breaking. The wind stopped blowing, and the kite that Prabangkara had flown with landed safely.

In the Land of the Chinese

The kite that brought Raden Jaka Prabangkara landed smoothly. The kite landed at the edge of a forest not far from a hamlet. It was quiet, and as far as one could see, there was nobody. It was said that the village had been called Yutwai. It was far from the capital of the kingdom. At the hamlet, there lived a poor, old widow named Kim Liong. Her husband had passed away for quite some time. She now lived with her daughter, a beautiful yet humble girl named Keng Mu Wah. Every day, Keng Mu Wah helped her mother to work in the forest nearby the Yutwai village. They sought and picked woods and leaves for sale in the village market. Not many buyers though. Whenever they found buyer, those buyers would buy from them very cheap. They worked and traded just to make ends meet. As usual, Kim Liong with her daughter went to the forest nearby the Yutwai village. They explored the forest in the search of woods and leaves. At that time, the sun had passed the height of a coconut tree. Suddenly

Kim Liong was thunderstruck as she saw a house before her. On a second look, it was actually not a house, but more like a structure that resembled a house. The structure looked like a small-sized, assembled boat that used a sail to catch wind. She also saw some ropes tied together.

Raden Jaka Prabangkara knew about this and saw from a distance that someone was trying to approach him. He then went out of the cage and slowly approached Kim Liong and her daughter. Kim Liong and Keng Mu Wah retreated in fright. Both were trembling in fear. Keng Mu Wah held onto her mother's hand. They were baffled, "Had this been a forest spirit, human or jinn? This figure must have been an apparition or satan," they thought. "His outfit was very good, but unlike any outfit commonly worn in China. He was very handsome, and well-mannered. It looked as though he was gleaming. Had this been a man, he surely is not a common man. He must be an issue of someone great." Prabangkara gazed upon Kim Liong and Keng Mu Wah, and at an instant, he remembered the clothing worn by a female court retainer of the Majapahit Queen. It appeared that their eyes were squinty, and their had yellowish skins. Prabangkara asked himself, "Are they princesses of China? Have I reached the land of the Chinese?"

"O, handsome young man, I would like to ask you, and answer me honestly. Are you the so-called spirit, the spirit that lives, guards, and takes command of this forest? What would be your

purpose to come here? Are you going to disturb the villagers around this forest? Are you going to spread disease in our village? Are you the Ong Te Pekong who come to take my life? Yet, if you're a human being, what is your name and where have you come from?"

It turned out that Raden Jaka Prabangkara understood the language spoken by Kim Liong. He once learned such language from a Chinese court retainer of Prabu Brawijaya's queen. He made frequent contact with courtiers from China who accompanied the Chinese consort of the Majapahit King. No wonder, Jaka Prabangkara could speak fluent and eloquent Chinese. He then answered Kim Liong's questions politely and kindly.

"Lady, I am neither a spirit, jinn, satan, nor the Ong Te Pekong. I also am not a god. I am a human being, just like you. I came from the land of the Javanese and I am servant of the Great King of Majapahit. I come from a poor family, and my name is Prabangkara. I am sorry that my presence here shocked you. I mean you no harm and disturbances nor do I mean such to anyone." Prabangkara then told her how he got in the forest.

"Actually I am on assignment from the King of Majapahit to paint the sky and all matters within. I went up to the sky on a giant kite that looked like a small boat equipped with a sail. I was also given enough supplies. You could see the remaining supplies in

the cage. After I finished my painting job, gushes upon gushes of wind pushed me downward. When the wind stopped I landed on an unknown land. I've been asking where on earth I had landed. Now that I hve met you, thankfully, I know where I really am.”

Kim Liong and Keng Mu Wah listened to Raden Jaka Prabangkara's story. They were amazed. Not a single word came out of their mouths. They still couldn't believe what they heard. What a long way had this handsome, young man come from. Kim Liong's feeling was deeply moved by Jaka Prabangkara's account. She felt was sympathetic for him.

“Jaka Prabangkara, that means you have been very far taken by the gushes of wind, suspended in the sky. China and Java are very far. Java is in the southeast of China. If one wants to travel to Java by sea, one must pass many large islands, spent at least 3 months. That was if the wind blew constantly.”

“Dear child, your uncle – my late husband – once sailed to Majapahit as part of the entourage of King Ong Te's daughter bound to be married to the king of Majapahit. From what I heard, the princess had separated from Majapahit king, is that true? One time the Chinese princess was 7 months pregnant and she was then sent to Raden Arya Damar in Palembang on the will of Majapahit King, is that true, child?”

“That is true,” replied Prabangkara. “Now the Chinese princess had delivered a baby boy with a face that looked like the Majapahit King.”

“O, child, what had the cage that you told us looked like, I want to see it,” said Kim Lion.

“By all means,” replied Prabangkara. He then took Kim Liong and Keng Mu Wah to see the cage where he had accomplished his duties.

The three of them walked towards the cage. Raden Jaka Prabangkara led the tour, followed by Kim Liong and her daughter. Finally, they reached the cage. Jaka Prabangkara welcomed them to go onboard the cage. Kim Liong was dazzled as she looked at the shape and contents of the cage. The tools and utilities there were like those one would find in a house.

She also could see all the paintings Prabangkara had finished. He managed to paint all matters of the sky. Every detail was thing was beautiful. Raden Jaka Prabangkara soon entertained Kim Liong and Keng Mu Wah. He served many Javanese snacks as well as drinks. The three of them enjoyed the servings. Afterwards, Jaka Prabangkara said.

“Madam Kim Liong, if you don’t mind me asking, would you accept me? I want to serve you as I don’t want to return to Java or

Majapahit. I'm ashamed of what I had been through." Kim Liong was so happy at hearing this request.

"Raden, I will gladly accept you. But, have you been thinking deeply about this? I am but a vermin, very poor, and I have nothing with me."

"Madam, I am determined and willing to accept anything," replied Prabangkara.

Kim Liong was very happy with the answer. She then took Jaka Prabangkara home with her. Prabangkara brought all of the remaining supplies from the cage with him. Plenty of food, drinks, and tools were brought to Kim Liong's house.

The kite and the cage were undone so they would be easier to carry. It took four days to remove all usable things and contents of the cage.

Jaka Prabangkara Lived Happily in China

Time passed unnoticed. Kim Liong loved Raden Jaka Prabangkara. She took him as her own son. One day Jaka Prabangkara gave her the ring that he had been wearing to Kim Liong. It was a beautiful gold ring with an orange-coloured gem.

"Mother, please accept this ring and sell it. Use the money as the capital for your trade to support our lives."

Kim Liong felt so moved by this gesture and she promised to carry out Prabangkara's suggestion to start a business. The money they had from selling the ring really brought happiness and luck for the Kim Lions. Anything they sold brought fortune to the family. They started to gain from selling goods. The same thing happened to Prabangkara who kept on painting. He painted anything, landscapes, animals, plants, or people. His paintings were then sold by Kim Liong. Eventually he became a famous painter. The whole village knew he was a painter. People rushed in to buy Prabangkara's paintings and his paintings' price was tight. People didn't care about the price set by Kim Liong as long as they could buy Prabangkara's paintings. Many even ordered in advance.

Money kept flowing in for Kim Liong. She started to be rich. Kim Liong was now famous as a new money thanks to her adopt son, Jaka Prabangkara. Jaka Prabangkara's name became widely spoken in the entire China regions. The adopt son of Kim Liong was also known as 'the charm of Yutwai village' who possessed a wide range of knowledge and skills. He mastered many knowledge. His skills were like the moon that glowed softly. His speech was loveable, his attitude was of noble quality. He deserved to be famous. The height of his moral and wisdom engaged anyone who had met and known him. Praises for Jaka Prabangkara came from even wider areas in China. He was handsome, unmatched by any other bachelor in China. He was

tough in many things, and that made him deserve the praise from the whole world. When he painted, the paintings would look exactly like the real thing. In many occasions, even more beautiful. It'd be difficult to distinguish between the ink and the paper. The colour he chose on a painting surely made the painting alive.

Many famous figures wanted to be painted by Jaka Prabangkara. Hence, he received many payment and gifts in return. Many beautiful items, money, even clothing.

The fame of Prabangkara reached the ear of the great emperor of China, Emperor Ong Te. When Emperor Ong Te heard the news about a highly skillful and miraculous painter, he immediately said to himself that he wanted to meet Prabangkara. The Emperor sent a courtier to meet and summon Prabangkara to his palace. Many nobles also wanted to see Jaka Prabangkara. Finally, the envoy of the emperor had arrived, along with Raden Jaka Prabangkara. Emperor Ong Te asked Prabangkara to come closer. Prabangkara bowed as he courteously walked. He walked as he crouched in approaching the emperor, just like a peacock showing off the beauty of its feathers. He walked flawlessly, with neck that followed the rhythm of his elegant paces. His elbows swung accordingly. All his movements looked charming and fascinating. Nothing disappointing about him. As he looked down, Jaka Prabangkara drew nearer to Emperor Ong Te who looked at him

with sharp eyes that looked straight. Everyone was stunned. It was admiration that made everyone couldn't say a thing. Even the emperor was stunned. He was staring at this young man, unblinking.

Emperor Ong Te said to himself, "This man must've been someone of a wise or noble descent. His humble manner and behaviour is really impressive." Emperor Ong Te wanted to find truth out of his presumption that Prabangkara was a noble. He also presumed that Jaka Prabangkara had not been honest about his origin. The Emperor then said to Raden Jaka Prabangkara.

"Son, I bid you now welcome to this palace."

"Your Majesty Great Emperor Ong Te, I must offer you my gratitude for Your Majesty's welcome. It's my hope that I could honour the blessing of the Emperor, and turn it into a source of force for me in this life," replied Raden Jaka Prabangkara.

"Son, tell me where you're from."

"I once served King Brawijaya of Majapahit. Yet, I beg you not to misjudge me. I am but the son of a vermin from the land of Java. I actually am a man of fatuous and lawless nature. For which, my devotion to the king had only brought me misery." Afterwards, Jaka Prabangkara told every details of himself, why he had been stranded in the land of the Chinese. King Ong Te was

touched by Jaka Prabangkara's story, and he felt deeply sympathetic.

He then asked Jaka Prabangkara to come closer. Jaka Prabangkara paid homage and then moved to sit closer to the feet of Emperor Ong Te. The Emperor then leaned forward towards Jaka Prabangkara as he whispered

“Son. Why on earth have you lied to me. It is now appropriate that you tell me who your parents really are.” Filled with humility, Prabangkara replied, “O, Esteemed Great Emperor Ong Te, nothing would I ask now but for your forgiveness for dishonesty. I actually am a son of King Brawijaya of Majapahit in the land of the Javanese, born to a concubine. My mother is daughter of a butcher in Majapahit.”

“I have arrived here in China but to serve the commandment of Prabu Brawijaya, the King of Majapahit. My duties and obligations are written in the letter that I have here.” Then Jaka Prabangkara spun the yarn about the letter that Prabu Brawijaya, his father, had written. Emperor Ong Te was touched by the story about the letter. He was affected to the length as though it was himself who had to endure all the misery. Deeply touched, Emperor Ong Te then said.

“You, Jaka Prabangkara, I am your guardian now. I have no objection should you want to hide your real identity. Yet, what I

want for you now is that you have to live in my palace. I shall make an arrangement for your foster mother and sister to be brought here.”

Prabangkara thanked Emperor Ong Te and submitted the matter wholeheartedly into the will of the Emperor. Madam Kim Liong and her daughter were brought to the palace. The Emperor placed them in a very nice mansion not far from the Emperor’s palace. The Emperor and all his ministers and all members of the court loved Prabangkara. Eventually, Prabangkara’s real identity wasn’t a secret anymore. Just like the smoke that steamed high to the sky, nothing and nobody could cover it with any drape. Everybody knew that Raden Jaka Prabangkara was the son of Prabu Brawijaya, King of Majapahit. Raden Jaka Prabangkara was then matched with the granddaughter of Emperor Ong Te, Siti Tumiyan. The Emperor also commanded Prabangkara to marry the daughter of Kim Liong, Keng Mu Wah. Jaka Prabangkara’s two wives got along very well and the two loved Prabangkara so much. Raden Jaka Prabangkara became more famous throughout the world. His skills exceeded his peers, he was wise, tough, and noble. Master in everything, humble, well-mannered, he honoured moral to the highest extent, he was an expert in faith, with a charming command of speech.

He was also famous for his wisdom in coping with all difficulties, being just in terms of law, and chivalrous. He was handsome,

with a face that glowed like the moon ray. He was loved by everyone, be it the young, the old, men and women. And thus, the prayers and hopes of Pabu Brawijaya V for Raden Jaka Prabangkara had come true. Honour and happiness had been bestowed on Raden Jaka Prabangkara and his descendants.